MORTAL MAN.

O, what a thing is man: bow far from power, From settled peace and rest! He is some several twenty men,

One while he counts of heaven, as of his treasur But then a thought creeps in. Call him coward, who, for fear of sin, Will lose a pleasure.

O, what a sight is man, if his attired Did alter with his mind; And, like a dolphin's skin, his clothes con

Surely, if each one saw another's heart, There would be no commerce, No sale or bargain pass; all would disperse

-George Herbert. CHINESE DREAD OF THE WET.

They Wear Cloth Shoes and Always Go

in When It Rains. In western lands it is a proverbial saying of one who is peculiarly stupid that he does not "know enough to go in when it rains." In China, on the contrary, the saying would be altered so as to read: "He does not know enough to stay in when it rains," and to a Chinese the idea that a human being has any functions which can be harmonized with the rapid precipitation of moisture can only be introduced by trepanning. They truly say of the streets and the people in them; "When wind blows, one-half; rain fall none at all." As the Chinese, in their way, are a particularly practical people none less so than the Anglo-Saxon, though less energetic-there must be some good reason for their persistent refusal for cen-

turies to encounter rain. Of the fact there can be no manner of doubt. The Tientsin massacre of 1860 might have been quadrupled in atrocity but for a timely rain, which deterred the rowdies already on their way to the settlement. A portable shower would be one of the most perfect defenses a traveler in the hostile sections of China could desire. We are confident that a steady stream of cold water, delivered from a two-inch nozzle, would disperse the most violent mob ever seen by a foreigner in China, in five minutes of solar time. Grapeshot would be much less effectual, for many would stop to gather up the spent shot, while cold water is something for which every Chinese, from the Han dynasty downward. entertains the same aversion as a cat. Externally or internally administered, he regards it as alike fatal.

The remote causes of their deep seated antipathy to wet weather lie imbedded in the Chinese constitution, but the proximate causes, in our view, are twofoldthe porosity of cotton cloth and the absolute scarcity of dirt. To our readers these reasons will, no doubt, appear inadequate, not to say frivolous; but this, we believe, is because they have not reflected profoundly on the subject. Why the Chinese should persist in wearing cloth shoes we do not pretend to say, but wear them they certainly do. Damp feet are not only uncomfortable, they are dangerous to health. Oiled boots are luxuries for the few, and, in seven cases out of eight, he who goes abroad when it rains will do it in cotton cloth shoes, which will be ruined. He has no light sandals. He never washes his feet. Hence it is easier and more philosophical to stay at home-which he does .- Tient-

Punting on the Thames. Parties of ladies and gentlemen were pushing and pulling to and fro, and landing and embarking at the floats, which were covered with "boats for hire." Sometimes a lady was pulling and her "feller" would lie back at his ease in the stern sheets, and sometimes it was reversed. A curious sort of flat bottomed boat, like an Ohio river skiff was very popular among the ladies. These boats were poled along, the water being clear and shallow and the bottom firm. The young lady would walk for-ward, put down the pole to the bottom and walk clear back to the stern, pushing with all her strength, then, walking forward again, repeat the process. This is punting, and is very nice where some pretty girl does the work and you are lying under a parasol with another pretty girl in the stern cushions. Many of these girls appeared to be clever oarswomen. All made up a pretty picture. The young men mostly wore white flannel pantaloons, white canvas boating shoes, and blue coats or none at all, and some af-fected the gay sash of the Venetian gon-dolier. The ladies wore all sorts of fancy boating costumes, mostly combinations of blue and white.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Common People of Russia. There is a lower grade of intelligence in the common people in Russia than was ever found among the blacks of America during slavery. The American negro had from the very beginning a natural "horse sense," a cunning which gave him reason. There is nothing in the minds of the mass of Russians except that which is carried by the senses of right and hearing. They do not reason. In St. Petersburg there are thousands of drosky (carriage) drivers, and I am told that not one in twenty can read the signs along the streets, and not two in five hundred can read a book or newspaper. And yet these men have had, for Russians, extraordinary opportunities. What, then, must be the condition of the people in the country—those who have not had

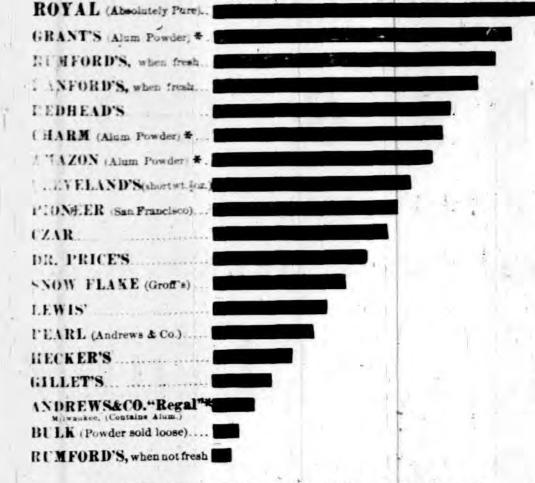
contact with the world? The proportion of these ignorant peo-ple to the intelligent and educated is about 60 per cent. Of the 100,000,000 population in Russia about 60,000,000 were either among the serfs freed by Alexander II a quarter of a century ago or are the offspring of those white slaves. They do not know what a school is, and have learned more abject manners than our black folks. I have never encountered so much obsequiousness anywhere. Not only do the working people perpetrate upon the visitor all sorts of salaams, but merchants and people in the upper classes have the infection, and bow and blink till a white freeman must blush .-

Cor. New York Sun. Discovery of America. "There is no historical fact in the world better established than that America was discovered by Icelanders in the year A. D. 1001," writes Professor Majunssun, of Cambridge university in England, and he adds that there is not a learned body in Europe that ever breathes

Wax Candles from Sugar Cane. One more sign of economics of progress is that it is contemplated to make wax candles out of sugar cane. It yields cerosin, which has a high melting point. - New York Times.

a doubt about it .- Chicago Times.

The Tarantula's Enemy. The worst enemy of the California tarantula is a big insect, something like a wasp, only much larger, which attacks the monster spider whenever it sees him. Almost invariably these wasps sting the tarantula to death in a short time, and then tear the body in pieces and carry it away.—New York Sun. COMPARATIVE WORTH OF BAKING POWDERS.



REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT CHEMISTS

As to Purity and Wholesomeness of the Royal Baking Powder. "I have tested a package of Royal Baking Powder, which I purchased in the open market, and find it composed of pure and wholesome ingredients. It is a cream of tartar powder of a high degree of merit, and does not contain either alum or phosphates, or other injurious substances.

E. G. Love, Ph.D." phosphates, or other injurious substances. "It is a scientific fact that the Royal Baking Powder is absolutely pure. "H. A. Morr, Ph.D."

"I have examined a package of Royal Baking Powder, purchased by myself in the market. I find it entirely free from alum, terra alba, or any other injurious substance. HENRY MORTON, Ph.D., President of Stevens Institute of Technology. "I have analyzed a package of Royal Baking Powder. The materials of which it is composed are pure and wholesome. S. Dana Haves, State Assayer, Mass."

The Royal Baking Powder received the highest award over all competitors at the Vienna World's Exposition, 1873; at the Centennial, Philadelphia, 1876; at the American Institute, New York, and at State Fairs throughout the country. No other article of human food has ever received such high, emphatic, and universal colorsement from eminent chemists, physicians, scientists, and Boards of

NOTE-The above DIAGRAM illustrates the comparative worth of various Baking Powders, as shown by Chemical Analysis and experiments made by Prof. Schedler. A pound can of each powder was taken, the total leavening power or volume in each can calculated, the result being as indicated. This practical test for worth by Prof. Schedler only proves what every observant consumer of the Royal Baking Powder knows by practical experience, that, while it costs a few cents per pound more than ordinary kinds, it is far more economical, and, besides, affords the advantage of better work. A single trial of the Royal Baking Powder will convince any fair-minded person of these facts.

* While the diagram shows some of the alum powders to be of a higher degree of strength than other powders ranked below them, it is not to be taken as indicating that they have any value. All alum powders, no matter how high their strength

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DEATH OF EMPEROR PAUL

Assassination of the Russiau Czar by a Band of Conspirators. The conspirators first met and drank pretty deep into the night, so that none of them were really sober when they appeared before Paul. They had already murdered the sentry in the passage, and, on finding that the door of the emperor's room offered some resistance. Pahlen broke it open. He had in his hand when he did so a snuff box, given him by Paul only a few days previously, when the cmperer had spoken to him of a conspiracy on foot, and when Pahlen had reassured him by asking how that could be? "for if there were such a thing I should be sure to have heard of it." Now, the half naked czar confronted Pahlen with the angry exclamation, "What, you there, Pahlen!" Beningsen then stepped forward, acting as spokesman for the rest, and told the emperor that he must ab-

Up to this moment, thanks to the complicity of the officer on duty at the foot of the staircase, the conspirators had had it all their own way; but now a noise frightened them and made them fear that a rescue was being attempted. It really came from the empress' rooms. She, hearing the scuffle, ran out and swooned at the back of Paul's door. An attendant offered a glass of water, but the Cossack on guard in her passage, fearing treachery also in this case, dashed down the glass, and ran to fill another from a source which he knew was unpoisoned. Meanwhile to the frenzy of their deep potations the conspirators now added the stimulant of fear. Paul must die; he must not be rescued, must not survive to tell who had threatened him, nor even to plot, in an enforced confinement, vengeance on those who had robbed him of power. He had already tested the trap door, and on finding it locked had given way to a

paroxysm of terror and fury. Then it was that the armed men closed in upon him; the brothers Zubow. so eager for revenge being the keenest, and Nicholas Zubow striking the first blow with a chair. This prostrated him. The sash of Pahlen seemed to be the weapon most suitable for their purpose, namely, to inflict a violent death which should leave few traces of violence, and which might be ascribed to a fit. The Courlander's sash was tied around the emperor's neck, and then the officer on guard (a Russian pur song) noticed a strange instance of the divinity which, in the native Russian breast, does hedge in the white czar. All the Russians fell back, and as Beningsen pulled the ends of the scarf to strangulation they said to each other aside and in Russian, "It's a dog's trick-better let the German dog do it."-Edinburgh Review.

Anecdote of John C. Heenan. In after years I had the honor of making the acquaintance of the American winner—the Benicia Boy, as we fondly dubbed him-a tall, grave, urbane gentleman, with reddish brown hair and a purple mustache. He wore black broad-cloth and a tall hat, and diamonds sparkled here and there. I wonder what the present champion of the world would have done if pitted against that individual. We had a sand bag hanging up in the college gymnasium; it was suspended by a long rope to a horizontal iron bar half way from floor to ceiling. The strongest man in the college-and he was pretty strong-had once hit this bag so hard that it swung up on a level with the bar. One day Heenan dropped in. We suggested that he should hit the bag. He glanced at the bag, and stripped off his black broadcloth coat, and laid it with its silken lining outward, over the back of a chair. Then he walked up to the bag, poised himself for a moment and his arm shot out. The bag flew upward with an impetus that carried it completely round the bar once and nearly round the second time. As it fell Heenan shook his head sadly and turned away. No one spoke; but as he slowly inserted himself

into the silk lining he remarked:
"Boys, you should have seen me when I was fit!' The muscles at the back of his shoulders were about of the appearance and consistency of ammonites-a variety of extinct cephalopodic mollusks, whose coiled stone remains occur in certain geologic strata.—Julian Hawthorne in The Cosmopolitan.

Regarded as a Public Benefactor. The wife of Gen. Crook, the Indian fighter, is regarded as a public benefactor by the people of Arizona. It came about in this way: She was traveling across the territory by rail several years ago. Her lunches had been provided by a city caterer, and the most striking feature of them was the abundance of watercresses. There were altogether too many cresses to suit Mrs. Crook's taste, and accordingly she threw them out of the window. But she did not dispose of them haphazard. The country is crossed by innumerable brooks, and it was only in passing them that Mrs. Crook threw out the superfluous cresses. They took root on the spots where they fell, and multiplied with marvelous rapidity. The result is that today this delicate appetizer is to be found in almost all parts of the territory, where before Mrs. Crook's chance sowing it was entirely unknown. -Courier-Journal.

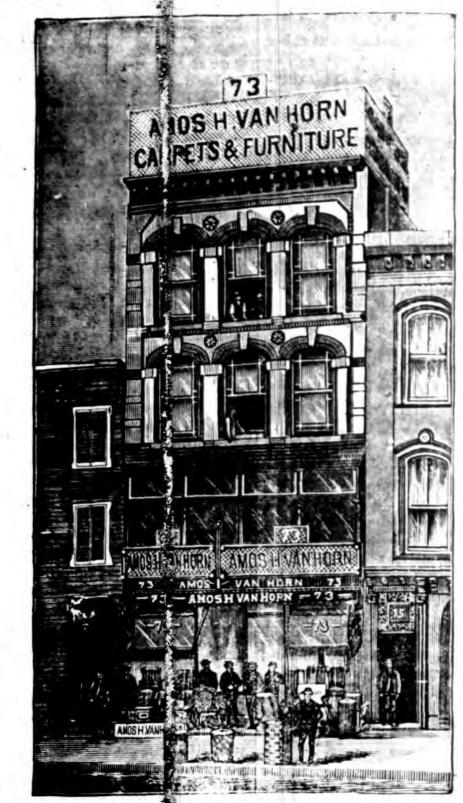
Velocipedes in Germany. The manufacture of bicycles and tricycles is the latest development of German competition with a hitherto specifically English industry. The splendid roads of the Black Forest and Switzerland have this year been more thronged than ever before with velocipedists. There is now hardly a town in Germany without its velocipede club.—Public Opinion.

To Stop Train Robbing. A correspondent of a Texas paper says that "train robberies can very easily and successfully be prevented at very small cost by firing suitable steam and hot water atomizers so that the robbers can instantly be covered with a spray of hot water and steam at any point within thirty feet from the locomotive. "The engineer or fireman can instantly

discharge the atomizer from various ints about their usual stands, unnoticeable by the robbers, and be immediately hid under a dense cloud of steam so the robbers cannot see to shoot them in case the robbers are not instantly scalded and disabled or killed. Such atomizers are very simple and cannot easily get out of fix, and if they are introduced I think will put a stop to train robbing. I have three different plans, all of which I will give gratis to any locomotive builders or railroad companies if they wish."-Chicago News.

Chirography at the Hotels. There's a notable difference in the chirography of foreigners and native born Americans, as exhibited on the hotel registers. The former write, as a rule, especially if from the continent, a small, careful and sometimes painfully minute hand. The sovereign of the United States dashes away as if ink and paper cost nothing, and he wouldn't care if it did.—New York World.

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